(ii) Provision of equipment and scientific support to sportspersons.

(iii) Intensive coaching of the players by Indian and foreign coaches in coaching camps.

(iv) Intensive training abroad to the teams.

(v) Financial assistance to concerned federations for participation of sportspersons in international tournaments.

(vi) Assistance for purchase of equipment, scientific support and training and participation within the country and abroad under the 'Scheme relating to Talent Search and Training' and the 'National Sports Development Fund'.

India's bid for Olympics 2012

687. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is bidding for the Olympics in 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether adequate preparatory work has been done by Government;

(d) to what extent Government is making a serious effort in this regard; and

(e) whether adequate sport infrastructure is available to make a serious and respected bid for the Olympic in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) At present, there is no move to bid for the 2012 Olympics though at one stage Government was contemplating to do so.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) The existing infrastructure would require substantial addition and upgradation for hosting the Olympic Games if Government decides to bid for them in the near future.

Probe into dope charges against Indian Olympics participants

688. SHRIMATI BIMBARAIKAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have initiated moves to probe the dope related charges levelled against Indian participants in the 2004-Athens Olympics;

(b) whether the proble findings establish nexus between the coaches and team officials; and

(c) whether the contracts with weightlifting coaches from East-bloc countries have been reviewed in the light of dope-related charges?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Indian Olympic Association (IOA) appointed an Inquiry Committee with Brig. (Retd.) K.P. Singh Deo, Chairman, Sports Development Commission of IOA and Dr. Manmohan Singh, Chairman, Medical Commission of Olympic Council of Asia to look into the doping controversy at the Athens Olympic Games, 2004.

On the recommendations of the Inquiry Committee, a life-time ban has been imposed on participation in sports events on the two weightlifters, namely Ms. Sanamacha Chuna and Ms. Pratima Kumari, who had tested positive for banned drugs during the Athens Olympics Games.

The Governments has terminated contracts of the coaches involved with the training of the above mentioned weightlifters, namely Shri Pal Singh Sandhu, the then National Coach and Shri Leonid Taranenko, Foreign Coach.

(c) No, Sir.

Measures to improve sports medicine

689. SHRI V. HANUMANTHARAO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adequate emphasis has not been given to sports medicine by the Sports Authority of India and other organisations;

(b) to what extent is India behind in sports medicine;

(c) whether it is also a fact that our sportsmen do not get proper medical advice from the various organisations in the country;

(d) what steps will be taken to improve sports medicine so as to improve athletics in the country; and

(e) the details of any schedule of work in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (e) No, Sir. Sports Authority of India (SAI) has emphasised the role of Sports Medicine and Allied Sports Sciences in enhancing the performance of sports-persons including athletes through the following steps:-